Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

3167. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have received any proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for leveraging the annual allocation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for Rs. 900 crores;

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto;

(c) the reasons for inordinate delay in clearing the above said proposal; and

(d) the time by when this request of the Andhra Pradesh Government is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (d) The Central Road Fund Act does not at present provide for leveraging of the Cess to raise resources for construction and maintenance of rural roads by the State Governments.

Setting up of laboratories for water testing in Tamil Nadu

3168. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up water quality monitoring and surveillance system;

(b) if so, whether Government are providing any assistance for setting up of stationary as well as mobile water testing laboratories in all district headquarters;

(c) if so, the details of such laboratory set up in Tamil Nadu along with the funds provided by Central Government; and

(d) the guidelines by Central Government to State Governments for routine analysis of water samples for their physio-chemical and microbial quality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Drinking Water Supply is a State Subject. The Government of India renders financial and technical assistance to the States in this endeavour through a

centrally sponsored programme, namely, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Under the programme, the union Government has been assisting the State Governments in developing an integrated system of drinking water quality monitoring by setting up of district level laboratories for water quality testing, reporting and generating awareness among the rural masses about the importance of water quality and its relation to health. A Community based water quality monitoring and surveillance programme has been pilot tested in 4 districts of the country, namely, Nellore in Andhra Pradesh, Sehore in Madhya Pradesh, Kangra in Himachal Pradesh and Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh for scaling up throughout the country.

(c) In Tamil Nadu State, all the 30 districts are having one district water quality-testing laboratory. Of these, 24 laboratories were sanctioned by the Government of India, and the remaining 6, by the State Government of Tamil Nadu. An amount of Rs. 75.76 lakh had been released for setting up of 24 district water quality testing laboratories and one mobile laboratory.

(d) The quality of drinking water of various sources is periodically monitored by the District Water Quality Testing Laboratories with reference to the water quality standards laid down by the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) as per IS: 10500 standard. Operational Manual and Executive Guidelines for implementation of Water Quality Testing Laboratories have been issued in May 1990 and are available on the Departmental web-site at www.ddws.nic.in.

Amount for rural development to NES

†3169. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided for rural development to North Eastern States during the year 2003-04 and 2004-05; and

(b) the names of the schemes/programmes for rural development implemented in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) The amount provided by Ministry of Rural Development to North Eastern States during 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 are enclosed in the Statement (See below)

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.